Toronto metro

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017


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The New
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Ultimate model shown ♦

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new Origin Stories

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**Vicky Mochama** on her family's move from Kenya to Canada **metroVIEWS**

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Toronto metro

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**LAKE ONTARIO RISING**
**But it may not be all bad**
metroNEWS

**30 MEN, 14 WOMEN**
But Women Win Toronto is starting a movement to see more female faces on city council **metroNEWS**

# Homeless refugees flooding city put strain on shelters

HOUSING

## City allocates additional $4.5 million to extend services

**Gilbert Ngabo**
Metro | Toronto

Toronto has been forced to pump more dollars into shelter services to accommodate an exceptionally high number of homeless refugees.

City council approved a proposal Wednesday to allocate an additional $4.5 million to the shelter and housing office in order to extend services for homeless and destitute refugees until the end of 2017. Part of the new funding will also seek an agreement with COSTI Immigrant Services, a local group helping newcomers, to help manage shelter programs for refugees run out of various hotels.

The cash follows a recent spike in refugees, who are increasingly relying on city shelter services for survival. Between January 2016 and May 2016, the number of refugee claimants using shelter services jumped from 459 on an average night to 1,179, according to the city.

That's almost a quarter of the total shelter population, said Patricia Anderson, manager at the city's shelter support and housing administration.

Anderson said the shelter intake systems do not collect information on refugees' countries of origin, but informal surveys indicate recent arrivals are generally from Nigeria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Hungary, Djibouti and Egypt.

"There is no evidence to suggest that Syrians are seeking shelter services in great numbers because of sponsorship breakdown or any 'month 13' aftermath," she said.

"There have been a number of instances in the past where the city has provided services to large and growing numbers of refugee claimants," she added, citing the example of the late 2000s when thousands of mostly Hungarian Roma people sought refugee status in Canada.

Homeless advocates have long decried the overcrowding of shelters. According to the city's daily shelter census, capacity currently stands at 95 per cent.

Since early December, the city has added more than 600 beds into its shelter system to keep up with growing demand, and about 450 beds have been recently added into motels to accommodate refugee families.

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# Two homeless people die every day in the city

STUDY

## A total of 27 deaths tracked in the first three months

**850**

Names on the Toronto Homeless Memorial, an unofficial record of homeless people in the GTA who have died since the 1980s.

Homeless people in Toronto are dying at a rate of more than two per week on average, according to disturbing new data collected by the city.

From January to the end of March 2017, a total of 27 homeless deaths were tracked in an expanded research initiative led by Toronto Public Health and supported by about 200 health and social services agencies. The median age of the deceased is 51.

"It's a sign that our city is failing," said Coun. Joe Cressy (Trinity-Spadina). "It seems to me that in a city as wealthy as ours that to have dozens of people dying on the streets is wrong, it's disturbing and it's a failure on all of us. While we might not be able to prevent the loss of every life, we certainly can prevent many of these if we do more."

Advocates for the homeless have long maintained that efforts thus far to accurately count the dead have under-reported the true scope of the tragedy.

Previously, the city has recorded deaths only in city-administered shelters; that number for all of 2016 was 33.

The death rate for 2017, if it continues at two per week through December, would top 100 — the most ever recorded in Toronto.

"While we hoped the new numbers would not be much higher, the results thus far are not unexpected," said Paul Fleiszer, manager, surveillance and epidemiology at Toronto Public Health, referring to the new data.

"Unfortunately, the real number may even be higher because we are at the early stages of the project and still getting more agencies to come on board to the reporting system."

As a comparison to the 27 deaths recorded in the first three months of 2017 by Toronto Public Health and its partners, volunteers with the Toronto Homeless Memorial recorded 11 over the same period.

The memorial is an unofficial record of homeless people in the GTA who have died since the 1980s. Deaths are vetted and the list maintained by outreach volunteers, such as street nurses and social workers. There are more than 850 names on the memorial; its highest annual death count was 72 in 2005.

Cathy Crowe is a long-time street nurse and distinguished visiting practitioner at Ryerson University's department of politics and public administration. She said the new numbers from the city confirm that previous death counts have been historically under-reported — something advocates for the homeless and health workers have been saying for more than a decade.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

# Library expanding access to reserves

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

As part of its commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Toronto Public Library Board has voted to expand access to its collection to people living on First Nations reserves.

"It's brilliant," said councillor and library board member Sarah Doucette. "We have over the years built this great resource, and it doesn't cost us anything to share it."

> **We have over the years built this great resource, and it doesn't cost us anything to share it.**
> Sarah Doucette

Library services are sparse on Ontario reserves. Of the province's 207 reserves, only 46 have a library. The average annual budget for each is only $15,000.

Doucette explains that libraries are all about sharing, and this is an easy way for Toronto to do its part. "I think whenever possible we should step up to the plate," she said.

The Toronto Public Library (TPL) is the only Ontario library system that also has a provincial mandate. According to TPL librarian Pam Ryan, that's just another reason to share.

But the details still need to be worked out. It could mean sharing TPL's extensive digital collection and offering library cards, but Ryan doesn't want to limit what's possible. She said the next step is to reach out to Indigenous communities to hear what they want and to do it on a timeline that works for them.

Expanding library membership is one of many TPL initiatives regarding Truth and Reconciliation. At its April meeting, the board reviewed 42 suggested strategies, including incorporating more Indigenous content into its programming.

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metro NEWS

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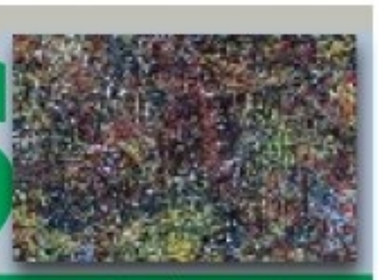

"Vent du Nord," a painting by late Quebec artist Jean Paul Riopelle, sells for $7.4 million.

# Campaign gives women the tools to succeed in politics

CITY HALL

## Workshops teach skills on how to run for council in 2018

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

When Hema Vyas decided to run for Toronto city council in 2010, she knew she had the skills for the job.

But the campaign was another story.

"You don't have a hotline you can call with your questions," said the former Ward 18 candidate.

From fundraising to putting herself on the public stage, she had never done any of it before and didn't know anyone who had.

That's something Vyas hopes to change through a new program called Women Win Toronto, launching June 7, aimed at getting more women to run for council in 2018.

The group of women behind the program are offering free networking events to connect prospective candidates with past ones as well as workshops on practical skills such as fundraising. The effort will last until the May 2018 deadline for registering as a candidate for the next city council election.

Out of 44 Toronto city councillors, only 14 are women. The sole woman of colour is Kristyn Wong-Tam, who is lending her support to the project.

"I know from personal experience being the only woman of colour and being the only out LGBTQ member of council can be a very lonely place," Wong-Tam told Metro.

"Especially since there is oftentimes an expectation that the issues around equity and equality will be raised only by myself."

The next election will see a lot of change, with some councillors retiring and a ward boundary review, so 2018 is an opportunity to shake things up, she added.

Aliya Bhatia, a former member of the Toronto Youth Cabinet, is one of the women working on Women Win Toronto. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

**TAKE PART**

Women Win Toronto kicks off with a free event at 6 p.m. on June 7 at the University of Toronto. You can book tickets and find more details at twca.ca/WomenWinTO.

Aliya Bhatia, who worked on Olivia Chow's mayoral campaign in 2014, said it's also about getting women into behind-the-scenes roles, such as campaign manager.

Bhatia, who faced "so much hate" even in her role outside the spotlight, said connecting women with prior candidates can help first-timers deal with the emotional impact of putting themselves on the public stage.

Wong-Tam said she often gets calls from LGBTQ people and women of colour asking if they too can run for local government — and they need more role models.

"I really believe that our city will be better if we actually have fairer representation than we have today," she said.

"We should on city council at least look like the city we serve."

## How do we stack up?

**Vancouver**
- 11 councillors, five women
- 45 per cent are female

**Toronto**
- 44 councillors, 14 women
- 31 per cent are female

**Winnipeg**
- 16 councillors, four women
- 25 per cent are female

**Ottawa**
- 24 councillors, four women
- 16 per cent are female

**Calgary**
- 15 councillors, two women
- 13 per cent are female

**Halifax**
- 17 councillors, two women
- 12 per cent are female

**Edmonton**
- 13 councillors, one woman
- 7 per cent are female

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# Policing cycling, one tweet at a time

SOCIAL MEDIA

## Parking enforcement officer wants accountability

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

Toronto cyclists have a new champion in Kyle Ashley.

The 29-year-old parking-enforcement officer is sick and tired of what cyclists have to put up with and has taken to Twitter to hold drivers accountable.

The 51 Division officer has posted photos admonishing the likes of Purolator, Bell and even ice-cream trucks for obstructing bike lanes. On Tuesday morning, he posted a selfie with a woman he ticketed for blocking the Shuter bike lane with her car. As a fellow cyclist, she agreed to pose for the pic and told Ashley she learned her lesson.

Kyle Ashley. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

He only joined the social-media site last week, part of a conscious effort to use tweets to improve cycling conditions.

"We need a greater culture of accountability," Ashley told Metro.

He's already getting recognition from Toronto cyclists. @AlexDRMather tweeted that Ashley "seems on the ball." @Robynmiyuki tweeted, "You're my favourite new Twitter account."

As an avid cyclist who bikes around 50 kilometres per day, seven days a week, he knows the risks of riding in the city.

"Dooring is the biggest concern," he said, noting that cyclists are more vulnerable than drivers. After all, "They don't have airbags." He also expressed his frustration with Uber and taxi drivers for pulling over without looking.

There's no one solution to the problem of cyclist safety. Ashley thinks council should look at more ticketing tools for police officers and he'd like to see companies take more responsibility and not see tickets as the cost of doing business.

That's why, on a personal level, he has taken to Twitter to share frustrating infractions with the public — not so much for shaming, he said, as education.

After all, he said, one traffic fatality is one too many.

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# Those Making Peace come to North America

WAGE LOVE!

## Exhibition in honour of great peacemakers arrives in TO

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

You may have recently noticed a special 514 streetcar wrapped up in a Nelson Mandela banner.

It's part of an international art exhibition paying tribute to peacemakers across the world, and it has just made its North American debut in Toronto.

Making Peace started 10 years ago with the goal of teaching people, especially youth, the key elements for the creation of a sustainable environment of peace. With hundreds of photographs depicting iconic peacemakers and the process of peace building, the exhibition has travelled to a dozen cities across the world.

**Ashley Woods** is the curator of Making Peace, a photo exhibit aimed at teaching people how to do just that. EDUDARDO LIMA/METRO

Curator Ashley Woods said the Canadian tour not only coincides with the country's 150th anniversary but also marks 60 years since Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize — becoming the first and so far only Canadian to get the honour.

Part of the goal is to influence the teaching of history in schools to focus less on violent figures, such as Hitler and Stalin, and instead emphasize the role of peaceful personalities like Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela.

"These are the true heroes who should give kids a real inspiration for a nonviolent future," said Woods.

The exhibition is organized under five colours representing five key elements that, according to the International Peace Bureau, must be combined in order to achieve durable peace. They include disarmament and nonviolence, conflict prevention, economic and social justice, human rights and democracy as well as environmental protection.

"People think one day everything will just be peaceful. That's just unrealistic," said Woods. "We have to continue maintaining a strong presence of these elements in our communities."

**DETAILS**

Making Peace is open to the public and runs through September in the Canary District. More details at makingpeace.org.

TORONTO'S DEADLY STREETS

## Child dies after falling off his bike onto road

A five-year-old boy is dead after being struck by a vehicle in Parkdale on Wednesday evening.

Toronto police arrived near Lake Shore Boulevard West and Jameson Avenue around 6:30 p.m. The driver of the vehicle remained at the scene. Paramedics took the boy to the Hospital for Sick Children, where he later succumbed to his injuries.

Toronto Star opinions editor Scott Colby was biking near the intersection immediately after the incident, and said: "I went over and it was like witnessing a nightmare."

Witnesses said the boy, who was accompanied by an adult, was hit after he fell off his bike onto the road. The boy lie by the car until a bystander began administering CPR until paramedics arrived. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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# Life's still a zoo in the face of strike

ANIMALS

## Vet crosses picket line after birth of 10 exotic cats

Two clouded leopard cubs are in an intensive care unit at the Toronto Zoo. CONTRIBUTED

The Toronto Zoo, closed for two weeks by a strike with no sign of settlement, wants people to know animal life continues behind the locked gates.

The city-owned zoo issued a cheery news release Wednesday announcing the births in recent days of 10 exotic cats, all to first-time mothers.

Three snow leopards, an endangered Himalayan carnivore, were born last Thursday to the zoo's seven-year-old female Ena and 13-year-old dad Kota. They are nursing well and monitored via camera by non-union staff.

On Saturday the zoo got its first clouded leopard births, a pair born to female Pavarti and male Mingma, both four-year-olds from the Nashville Zoo. Pavarti was not nursing or mothering them so a veterinarian gave them fluids on Sunday. They were moved Monday to an intensive care unit in the zoo's new $18-million wildlife health centre.

On Sunday five cheetah cubs were born to four-year-old female Laini and 8-year-old male Patonga.

Laini came to the Toronto Zoo from Parc Safari in Montreal as part of a co-operative conservation breeding program. The zoo has now hosted the births of 53 of the speedy cats which have a "vulnerable" designation.

"We are absolutely delighted about these new arrivals," said Dr. Chris Dutton, the zoo's chief veterinarian, in the news release.

The release did not mention, noted CUPE Local 1600 president Christine McKenzie, that the clouded leopards were saved with help from a striking veterinary technician.

With union permission, she crossed the picket line and helped care for the cubs for about five hours late Sunday and into Monday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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**IMMIGRATION A WARM WELCOME** With the aroma of traditional Syrian delicacies in the air, what's usually the drivers' support centre at Uber's Toronto office was transformed into an intimate storytelling party Wednesday night. The guests from a refugee shelter in the city were welcomed by Uber staff, mingling over a delectable spread of Syrian dishes. The food, for Toronto's first Refugees Welcome dinner, was prepared by Syrian couple Amir and Nour Fattal, who arrived here from Turkey in July after they were sponsored by a group of Toronto residents. "It's great to meet new people," said Ali Mahmud, 37, who fled Eritrea for Canada in January and was granted asylum two months ago. "We had problems in our country. I'm here by myself. I'm hoping to share our stories." Launched in February with faith groups in the United States, the Refugees Welcome campaign has expanded to Germany, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Norway and now Canada. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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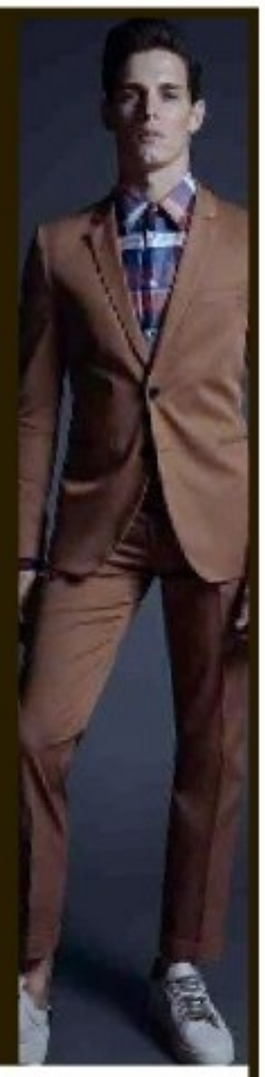

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## SILVER LININGS

**Sure, high water means the island is closed to the public until at least June 30, but it's not all bad news. Here are some silver linings:**

- Northern pike spawn in shallow, grassy water in April and May. Flooding provides ideal conditions, so we could see a "resurgence" over the next two years, says the Toronto Region Conservation Authority.
- Beaches like Woodbine are closed or unusable right now. However, high tides bring in sand and sediment to replenish the waterfront, Gail Faveri told Metro. It might take five or 10 years to really appreciate it, but it's an important part of the environmental cycle, she said.
- Flooding can provide nutrients to revitalize areas with lots of natural resources. It's not good for the island today but it will help trees and fields flourish in years to come.

# Lake's water levels on pace for record

WEATHER

## Rise may continue as heavy rains forecasted

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

Lake Ontario's record-setting water levels are poised to continue. The lake, which set a one-day high-water mark on May 18, could see a new record in just a few days.

"This weekend it could go higher," said Gail Faveri, the Canadian secretary for the International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board, the joint Canada-U.S. commission that regulates water levels. "Water levels are high and will continue to be high," she said, adding that there is an internal discussion about whether the lake levels will hold or increase over the next few days.

The water level of Lake Ontario is the highest it's been since recording began in 1918. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

There are few signs of relief from record-high waters that have flooded Toronto Island and cancelled concerts. Faveri told Metro that the commission cannot release any additional water out of Lake Ontario to lower the level.

"The most we can release is 10,200 cubic metres per second," she explained, which they are already doing. Any more would make the waterways unsafe for freighters to navigate, she added.

Opening up the dams could also damage Montreal, as the water would flow up the St. Lawrence and soak a city that just two weeks ago declared a state of emergency due to flooding.

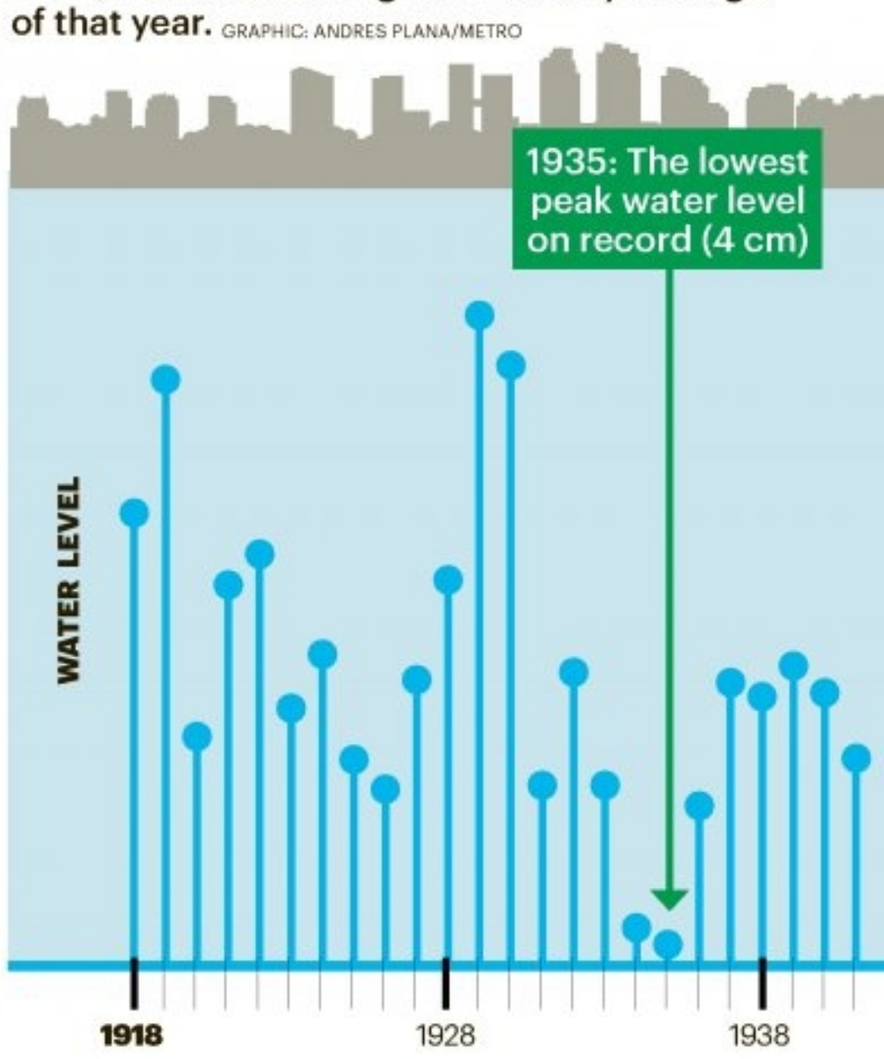
Despite those risks, Faveri said, U.S. representatives are getting antsy. "The state of New York was most perturbed that we did not release additional water" from Lake Ontario, she told Metro.

The commission has forecast 118 weather scenarios based on historic data. Faveri said most scenarios show high water continuing for quite some time, and it may take until December for the level to return to normal.

Water levels typically peak from May to July. Lake Ontario is on pace to set a new monthly record in May, breaking the previous mark set in June 1952.

Heavy rain is forecast for Thursday.

**BY THE NUMBERS** Lake Ontario's baseline water level is 74.2 metres. This chart shows the most the water level rose above that mark, based on the highest monthly average of that year. GRAPHIC: ANDRES PLANA/METRO

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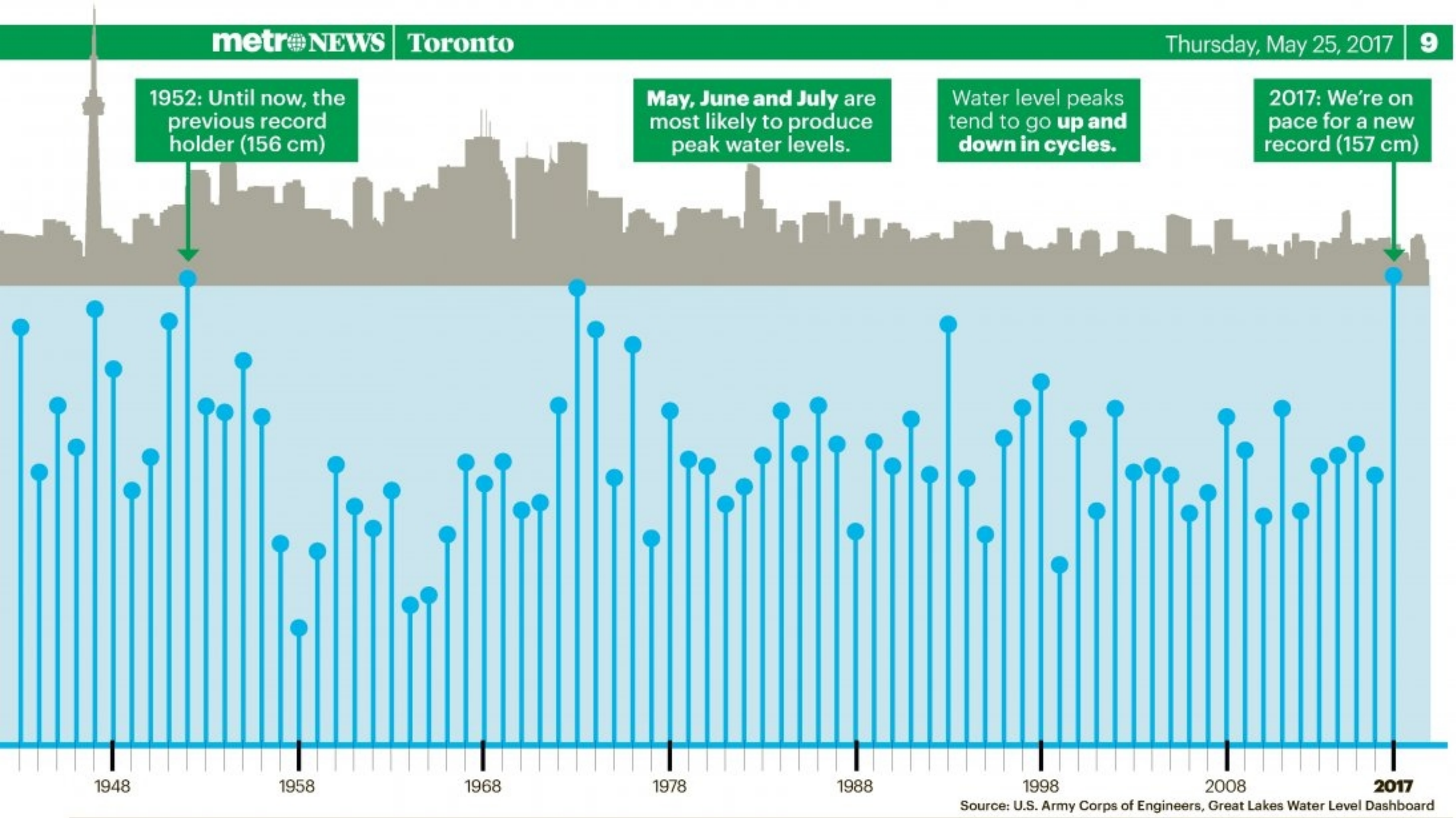
1952: Until now, the previous record holder (156 cm)
May, June and July are most likely to produce peak water levels.
Water level peaks tend to go up and down in cycles.
2017: We're on pace for a new record (157 cm)
1948
1958
1968
1978
1988
1998
2008
2017

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Great Lakes Water Level Dashboard

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# How to interact with wild animals

Some interaction between people and wildlife is inevitable, but as a recent incident between a sea lion and young girl in Steveston, B.C., shows, getting too close to wild animals can result in some terrifying situations. Metro spoke with wildlife experts about what people should and should not do if they encounter these four animals. WANYEE LI METRO

## 1 Bears

**Don't** run or climb a tree; don't make eye contact with the bear
**Don't** scream
**Do** go indoors without turning your back on the bear
**Do** move slowly
**Do** use pepper spray if the bear gets too close

## 2 Cougars

Cougars seem attracted to children due to their size and high-pitched voices. Experts recommend parents teach children what to do if they see a cougar.
**Don't** run
**Don't** make sudden movements
**Do** maintain eye contact if the cougar shows interest in you
**Do** show teeth and make loud noises
**Do** back away slowly

## 3 Sea lions

Despite their big eyes and dog-like faces, sea lions are wild animals that are opportunistic predators and will try to eat anything it can get its mouth on, according to the Vancouver Aquarium.
**Don't** hang your hands over the water near the sea lion
**Don't** call or talk to the sea lion
**Do** keep your distance

## 4 Coyotes

Wolves and coyotes are generally shy but if they get too close to humans, it is important that people haze them to ensure they maintain their fear of people.
**Don't** run away
**Don't** let dogs off leash
**Do** yell and gesture wildly with arms to scare the coyote
**Do** throw objects like rocks at the coyote

ECONOMY

## Ottawa unveils plan for 'supercluster' innovation

The federal government is calling on industry leaders from select sectors to propose "superclusters" of technological innovation that promise to create jobs and spur economic growth.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Minister Navdeep Bains kickstarted the national competition Wednesday for $950 million in seed money that will help set up these hubs of investment and research.

The idea is to establish not-for-profit consortiums of small and big businesses, academic researchers and other groups that will serve as nodes of investment and innovation for key sectors of the Canadian economy. Details on where, when and what exactly these "superclusters" will look like will depend on proposals that the government receives, Bains said Wednesday.

"I would summarize it in three words: Jobs, jobs, jobs," Bains told Torstar. "We're in a global innovation race. This is about creating a high-value economy."

In a speech to the Economic Club of Canada, Bains said the near-billion dollars in federal money would create areas like Silicon Valley in the U.S., where many of the world's leading tech firms and online companies are based. Canada's versions would focus on sectors where the country is positioned to compete globally, Bains said, such as advanced manufacturing, agri-food and clean technology.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### IN BRIEF

**Canada to host peacekeeping forum**
Canada will play host to an international peacekeeping summit this fall, in part to seek pledges of troops for UN missions, even as plans for its own peace support operation are in limbo.

Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan used a visit to New York to confirm that the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial forum will be held in Vancouver on Nov. 14 and 15 and 500 delegates from 70 countries are expected to attend. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



# Taken too soon

The victims of the Manchester attack were mothers, fathers, and kids

The names of the 22 victims killed by a bomber at a Manchester concert on Monday night have not been officially released, but here what's known about them so far:

Michelle Kiss was a mother of three children, a loving wife, sister and daughter — and "family was her life," her loved ones say.

In a statement released to Manchester police, her family said: "She has been taken away from us and all that love her in the most traumatic way imaginable."

The Daily Mirror newspaper reported that Kiss attended Monday's concert with her daughter. Her daughter was reported to be safe and was photographed being hugged by a police officer.

An off-duty female police officer was among those killed at Manchester Arena in the bombing of the Ariana Grande concert.

Cheshire Police, the force she served with, confirmed her death on Wednesday but declined to provide further details. British media reported that she was with her husband and two children, and that all three others were injured in the bombing.

Teenager Nell Jones, who went to a school in the village of Holmes Chapel, south of Manchester, was described by a teacher as "a very popular girl, always smiling, always positive."

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College said police had confirmed Nell died at the scene of the bombing Monday at the Ariana Grande concert in Manchester.

Head teacher Denis Oliver said in a statement Wednesday that the school community was devastated by the news.

Oliver also confirmed that another Year 9 student, Freya Lewis, was badly injured in the attack.

Teenager Olivia Campbell-Hardy, who went to a school near Manchester, was at the Ariana Grande concert in Manchester with a friend on Monday night.

Tottington High School in the town of Bury said the school community was "absolutely devastated and heartbroken" at the news Wednesday that Olivia was killed in the blast.

The school said Olivia, reportedly 15, had been with a friend.

Her mother, Charlotte Campbell, who had been appealing online for news of Olivia, wrote in a Facebook post early Wednesday: "RIP my darling precious gorgeous girl Olivia Campbell taken far, far too soon, go sing with the angels and keep smiling mummy loves you so much."

Saffie Roussos, 8, is the youngest victim identified so far.

In a statement, the head teacher of the Tarleton Community Primary School that she attended in the village of Tarleton, Lancashire, described her as "simply a beautiful little girl in every aspect of the word."

A Polish couple who had come to collect their daughters from the concert in Manchester are among the dead, Poland's foreign minister said Wednesday.

Witold Waszczykowski said the daughters were unharmed. He did not give the couple's names but the daughter of Marcin and Angelika Klis has been searching for her parents since the explosion. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manchester City Council workers move the floral tributes from Albert Square to St Anns Square on Wednesday in Manchester, England. Greater Manchester Police are treating the explosion at an Ariana Grande concert as a terrorist attack. GETTY IMAGES

## Britain on edge during raids, arrests

Security forces rounded up more suspects Wednesday in the deadly Manchester concert blast and soldiers fanned out across the country to national landmarks as an on-edge Britain tried to thwart the possibility of additional attacks.

Officials scoured the background of the British-born ethnic Libyan identified as the bomber, saying he was likely part of a wider terrorist network. Additional arrests were made both in Britain and in Libya in the bombing that killed 22 people and wounded scores more. Among those taken into custody in Libya were the suspected bomber's father and his younger brother, the latter of whom confessed to knowing "all the details" of the attack plot, authorities said.

Authorities raided British properties thought to be connected to Salman Abedi, the suspected bomber.

British Home Secretary Amber Rudd said Abedi "likely" did not act alone in the strike at the close of an Ariana Grande concert Monday night and that he had been known to security forces "up to a point."

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New episode May 26 featuring Alex Boutilier and Nick Zarzyki

## CHANTAL HÉBERT ON TRUDEAU'S PICK FOR THE LANGUAGE FILE

# The government says the more arms-length process has been slowing things down. But there's little that's arm's length in the process described.

At this time last year, Madeleine Meilleur was a long-serving cabinet minister in the Liberal government of Kathleen Wynne. Over her 13 years at Queen's Park she held a number of portfolios under two premiers. Her initial time in the legislature coincided with the Ontario tenure of both of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's top aides Katie Telford and Gerald Butts.

When Meilleur left active politics last summer, she had her heart set on securing a Senate appointment. That was until it was made clear that Trudeau's more independent Senate was no place for a just-retired Liberal politician.

That is how she came to set her sights on the then-soon-to-be-vacant post of commissioner of official languages. She applied for it like anyone else. Before and during her years in politics, Meilleur had been a strong advocate for French-language rights. Earlier this month her name emerged as the prime minister's choice for the post. But that is not to say that the process that led to the decision was a blind one.

Meilleur says she had chats about her application with Telford and Butts along the way. And it was Heritage Minister Mélanie Joly — according to her spokesperson — who conducted the final interviews.

The official languages commissioner is one of eight agents of Parliament.

The auditor general is another, as is the chief electoral officer. They report to Parliament, not the prime minister.

The collective mission of these officers is to act as independent watchdogs in their designated areas of expertise.

The term "independent" is an operative word in their job definition, or at least it was until Meilleur's proposed nomination.

That there is less than a degree of separation between Meilleur and Trudeau's Liberal government is not in question. That closeness is unique in the history of similar appointments.

Among the half dozen that served as languages commissioners since the post was created in 1970, only one, Victor Goldbloom, was ever active in electoral politics. The others hailed from academia, journalism or were career diplomats.

Goldbloom had served in the Quebec cabinet of Robert Bourassa. But the parallels with Meilleur stop there, for he left the National Assembly more than a decade prior to his federal appointment. In the interval, he had held a number of non-partisan positions. And while Goldbloom had been a provincial Liberal MNA, it was Tory prime minister Brian Mulroney who put his name forward.

This is Trudeau's first proposed appointment of an agent of Parliament. There are more to come; more than half the positions are filled on an interim basis. In some instances, as in the case of the chief electoral officer, the length of the hiatus is unprecedented. Marc Mayrand left his post five months ago after having given six months' notice. The government says the quest for a more arms-length merit-based process has been slowing things down.

But there is little that is arm's length in the process described by both Meilleur and Joly's office. Based on their accounts, the only feature that is more transparent than ever is the wall that should stand between government officials and the selection of independent parliamentary watchdogs.

The opposition parties have not signed off on the nomination. They have complained to the Speaker that the prime minister ignored his legal obligation to consult them prior to the announcement.

If and when Meilleur's name is put to a vote in the Commons, her appointment might only carry because the Liberals hold a majority. Under that scenario, things could get difficult in the Senate. Some independent senators may balk at vetting an appointment devoid of consensual support in the other house. It does not help that some of the associations that toil on the front of French-language rights have expressed concerns over the integrity of the process.

This comes at a time when the Liberal government has presented legislation that could clip the wings of the parliamentary budget officer. To say that there is widespread opposition suspicion that the Liberals, like their predecessors, like watchdogs best when they are on a leash is an understatement.

In the last election campaign, Trudeau accused Stephen Harper of having turned Parliament Hill into "a partisan swamp." He said he would clean it up. It is hard to reconcile that promise with an appointment that fails the non-partisan smell test.

# Kid President Trump field tripping with glee

Vicky Mochama
Metro

The Donald is travelling the world. So far, the trip has proved that Trump may not be the youngest president but he certainly is it most childish.

It has been a successful trip insofar as he hasn't yet tickled the bottom of a major world leader or tried to rename the Vatican to Trump Church.

Joining hands with his mentors in despotism, Egyptian President el-Sissi and Saudi Arabia's King Salman, President Trump launched the Global Center for Combating Extremist Ideology. The Internet exploded with jokes based on three men standing in a dark room with their hands on a glowing ball. Here's the thing though: It looks cool. It looks exactly like what any self-respecting child would imagine the presidency to be like.

After Saudi Arabia, the President's tour took him to Israel where, in a truly presidential manner, he managed not to casually reignite a catastrophic war between Israel and Palestine. He took some pictures at the Western Wall and wrote in the guestbook at the Holocaust memorial. His message of hope: "IT IS A GREAT HONOR TO BE HERE WITH ALL OF MY FRIENDS - SO AMAZING & WILL NEVER FORGET!"

Donald Trump, Kid President, is having a whammo-blammo time.

Take, for example, his trip to the Vatican: the photos show him grinning from ear to ear while Melania, Ivanka and the Pope stare deadpan ahead.

Now that he's visited the homes of three major faiths – Saudi Arabia for Islam, Israel for Judaism, and the Vatican for Catholicism – his itinerary takes him to two more centres of faith: Belgium for Bread and Italy for Pasta. Carbs may not be a religious faith for all, but they certainly are for me.

For his first major foreign trip, it's been a whirlwind. Nine straight days without at least two visits to Mar-A-Lago.

Poor Kid President. He must be exhausted.

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**“Our collective existence — the solid core of my world, my family — is due to my mom’s fortitude.**
Vicky Mochama

**Left:** Vicky and her mother Agnes visit the apartment where the family lived together after moving to Canada from Kenya. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO **Top:** Mother and daughter reunited at the airport in 1994 after a year apart. CONTRIBUTED

### *How I feel close to home?*

I keep Kenya in my heart by keeping it on my feet. Every summer, I put on a new pair of beaded sandals that someone transports from Kenya. I transport myself around the city I’m in now with shoes from where my past lies.

# *Origin Stories:* Becoming an ordinary family in extraordinary days

I was five years old when I touched down at Toronto’s Pearson airport in November 1994. The plan: Experience Canada for a bit, then go back to Kenya.

We’ve been here for 23 years.

Our story is extraordinary in its ordinariness. In the apartment buildings where we spent our early years, there were hundreds more families exactly like us, before and after our tenure.

The promise of education and prosperity kept my family here. For others the choices weren’t as ambitious; home was less a place to return to and more of a hope to find.

Our extended stay started when my dad was awarded a scholarship to study in Canada for the second time. He’d come once before, alone, to the University of Manitoba. But on this journey, my mom accompanied him and then my three siblings and I followed one year later.

Not that I knew any of that at the time. Kids are an oblivious bunch. All I knew was it was very cold, but in exchange, I got a fabulous bright pink jacket. So, how bad could it be?

Winter was hard, but keeping food on the table was harder. The scholarship provided just enough to cover rent.

“There was no support for families,” says my dad. “You were on your own.”

Nearly 90 per cent of the scholarship money went to a two-bedroom apartment in 30 Charles St., a concrete skyscraper just south of Bloor Street in downtown Toronto. Across the street stands 35 Charles, its doppelganger building where we made yet more friends and found family.

Inside these buildings, the diversity of the academy was on display as students from around the world packed into the towers. Coming home from school, the hallways always smelled of faraway homes.

Together, neighbours shared tips on how to get a library card and where to buy cheap fruits and vegetables. The building pulsed with the energy of students and their families as they tried to make functioning lives in Toronto. In our building’s Free Room, we dug out the appliances and furniture from the homes of now-departed tenants to make our new home.

The change in our physical reality also came with big changes to our family reality. My mother’s late nights and early mornings left my dad — a mathematician of towering intellect — as the cook and hairdresser of three girls. It is not his strongest domestic skill.

My sister was a regular torment. My father, the PhD student, would frequently tie her hair tightly and warn her not to loosen it. She’d return from school sans hair tie with a head full of playground sand.

The money for food, television, and six winter jackets came from my mother. In Kenya, her job as a senior education administrator included her own driver.

In Canada, she took the subway to job after job — homecare, book sales, worm-picking — where the only perk was taking home a paycheque. (Except for book sales, which occasionally netted a free novel or two for the shy, bookish, frequent-crier in her life a.k.a. me.)

She found jobs that were physically taxing and unthanking. She sought out the government programs that allowed us to thrive: Friends pointed her to a subsidized summer camp at the 519 Community Centre in Toronto’s Gay Village. She reached to a community that fed us, located opportunities that entertained us and did the work that sustained us. While my dad’s education was the reason we were in Canada, it was my mother’s resourcefulness that allowed us to survive.

Our collective existence — the solid core of my world, my family — is due to my mom’s fortitude. I was a child. To quote Robert Hayden, “What did I know of love’s austere and lonely offices?”

That I know men can be pushed past their traditions and masculinity is because of my dad.

Those years seem really far away now. We’ve settled in. Now, when I return to Canada from travelling, it’s like flopping onto a well-worn couch at home.

I hope, however, to never forget that my ease was put together by grit and adversity and all the things that make good life worthwhile. It was in those extraordinary days that we became an ordinary family — loving, selfless and united.

**Vicky Mochama** is Metro’s national columnist. She appears every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

### *Origin Stories*

**This summer we are telling tales of our multicultural nation through your stories of arrival. Share yours for a chance to be included in the series with #MetroOrigins or email sjbattersby@metronews.ca**

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Ariana Grande suspends tour after deadly bombing at Manchester concert

# Dawn of the selfie drone

**WE TRIED IT**
After ten minutes of fiddling and two crash-landings, our tech-testers concluded that the ROVA is a fun toy but not for tech-dunces.

**Now just make sure it gets your good side: The ROVA selfie drone is operated through an app on your phone that acts like a joystick.** COURTESY IOT GROUP

TECHNOLOGY

## Selfie-stick inventor is not so impressed by new gadgets

**Genna Buck**
Metro Canada

When selfie-stick mania hit, the tech scolds were out in full force.

"The Selfie Stick: Perfect accoutrement for the digital narcissist," Psychology Today screamed. "Why the selfie stick must die," whined CNN.com.

But selfie technology has moved on since the bad old days of early 2015. Sticks are passé. Selfie drones are where it's at.

Camera-equipped flying robots allow people to capture photos and videos from incredible angles previously impossible unless you had access to a helicopter. And they're getting lighter and cheaper, with Best Buy about to sell ROVA from Australia-based startup IoT Group for $399 in June. It's controlled by a smartphone app.

At CES tech trade show in January, Consumer Reports proclaimed "Selfie drones are about to enter our lives in a big way" after 39 exhibitors showed off their wares. VentureBeat reports sales are expected to hit 3.4 million units this year, according to the Consumer Technology Association.

Last week, a camera drone halted a baseball game in San Diego and the operator is facing a $1,437 fine after he lost control of the device.

Selfie drones (really, camera drones — you can point them at anything) are already transforming how wedding photographers and real estate agents work. Snowboarders are programming drones to follow them around.

But if you're a hater, selfie drones are another devil's instrument, with all the same evils as a selfie stick, except noisier and with even more potential to take someone's eye out.

Could this really be the big tech craze of summer 2017?

One person who has quite a few thoughts about that is Wayne Fromm, the Canadian inventor of the selfie stick (trade name: Quick Pod). He said "picture taking as a pursuit is only going to grow."

But he sees the trend moving towards smaller, lighter and less obtrusive devices; the opposite of drones. He expects the many museums, events and public places that banned selfie sticks to take a hard line on drones too.

Fromm, who has also invented toys for Crayola and Disney and crafted the marketing campaign behind the '90s toy fad Crazy Bones, said he has a feel for which new products are going to take off and which won't — and he's not too enthusiastic about selfie drones.

"I'm a gadget guy. I love electronics. And I don't see it, for the average person," he said, adding there's "room for all sorts" of photography accessories in the market and he doesn't see drones encroaching on his business.

Kristen Thomasen, a University of Western Ontario law professor who focuses on the legal aspects of robots and drones, also isn't panicking about a drone-pocalypse.

"Will everybody at the Kentucky Derby have a drone? If that's ever going to happen, it's a long way off," she said.

"We're good at reining in technology as society. You can't just drive a car anywhere. I'm not as concerned that everybody is going to have a drone all over the place."

### STEER CLEAR OF LEGAL TROUBLE

Three ways selfie-drone operators could crash-land into legal trouble, according to University of Western Ontario law professor Kristen Thomasen:

**1. Aviation rules.** An interim order from Transport Canada says you can't fly a drone within 75 metres of a building, higher than 90 metres in the air, or within nine kilometres of an airport or helipad.

**2. Liability.** You could be held responsible if you injure people or property with a drone.

**3. Privacy concerns.** Using a drone to peep into windows or otherwise spy on private property is obviously illegal and super creepy. But "in public space it's a little less clear what kind of legal protections drone operators run up against," Thomasen said.

What might be more important, she added, is being "very responsible and aware" of how drones make people feel.

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# 5 SHOWS COMING TO THE CBC SCHEDULE

Alias Grace part of television lineup along with Kristin Kreuk, Lauren Lee Smith and Allan Hawco dramas.

**TONY WONG** TELEVISION CRITIC

### 1 Alias Grace

This six-part mini-series based on the Booker Prize-nominated historical piece of fiction is CBC's entry this fall into the prestige drama arena. It's directed by Sarah Polley and starring Sarah Gadon.

### 2 Taken

This true-crime documentary series draws attention to the more than 1,000 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada through interviews with the families of those who were lost.

### 3 Frankie Drake Mysteries

From the same folks who gave you Murdoch Mysteries, Lauren Lee Smith (The Listener) plays Toronto's only female private detective.

### 4 The Great Canadian Baking Show

There is nothing less inspiring than a Canadian franchise of a foreign reality show. Except if it's based on The Great British Baking Show. Because, believe it or not, for many Canadians baking can be exciting stuff.

### 5 Caught

Allan Hawco returns to the CBC for the first time since Republic of Doyle for Caught. Based on Lisa Moore's novel, Hawco's character escapes from prison where he was sent after a drug deal.

# Pyper's new monster

HORROR FICTION

## Horror writer's latest novel is a reflection of monsters within

**Sue Carter**
For Metro Canada

Andrew Pyper always keeps his office door shut while he's at home writing. Ostensibly, he did it to keep his kids from coming in and destroying the space, but after his wife asked why he keeps his office closed off, Pyper realized that perhaps he was experiencing a deeper need to keep his monsters contained within.

Dubbed "Canada's scariest writer," Pyper spends a lot of time in that room plotting horrific situations and inventing creatures intended to keep readers up late at night. "Closing that door was a symbolic containment of the dark stuff I was imagining," he says. "It was some small concession. Going into these dark worlds every day may not cost me psychically or personally, but they should be treated with respect and kept out of reach."

Pyper's new novel, and his ninth book, The Only Child, follows bestsellers The Damned and The Demonologist, which established the Toronto author as international horror royalty (often compared to the crowned ruler, Stephen King). The Only Child came from observing the evils in the current cultural and political world. He was distressed by the number of people, mostly in positions of power, who seemingly lack the capacity to respond and feel in human ways, which got him thinking: "Where do monsters come from?"

Pyper's research for the novel began with an "Aha!" moment — in which the author realized that every modern monster stemmed from Mary Shelley's 19th-century Gothic horror novel Frankenstein, Dracula by Bram Stroker and The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson. "Specifically, some version of the reanimated dead, or the parasite or vampire, or the psychotic or possessed, the demon within," he says.

**Andrew Piper.** CONTRIBUTED

Tony Brouwer
@tbrouwer
Dear TTC subway passengers if it's not an emergency don't press the emergency alarm thank you.
You said it.
Only use the Emergency Alarm if you require medical, police or fire services.

And so Pyper attempted to create the most evil entity of them all.

The Only Child imagines a nameless 200-year-old man, who not only contains the sinister attributes of all three monsters, he actually inspired the creation of the famous literary figures. The monster targets Dr. Lily Dominick, a forensic psychiatrist in New York, who, as a child, witnessed the mauling death of her mother by an unidentified creature thought to be a bear. Following a violent incident involving a colleague, Lily is lured by him on a journey that traverses continents, time and history.

"I think the monsters that Shelley, Stoker and Stevenson conjured — hybrids of the disfigured with the recognizably human — we see ourselves in the creatures just as we are horrified by them. They act as bridges between ourselves and aspects of ourselves we'd rather not look at."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

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HOME
Your essential daily news

MEET THE CONDO

# Amenity-rich living in a boutique building

## Project overview

Closer to the subway entrance than any other residential building, Transit City residents will be able to get underground to the subway in two minutes or less. The lobby is reminiscent of the nicest five-star hotels.

## Location and transit

In the heart of the burgeoning Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, the building is located at the new Yonge-University TTC subway line, as well as regional transit. Motorists will enjoy quick access to nearby highways 7, 407 and 400.

## Housing amenities

Residents will have a membership to the adjacent 100,000 square foot YMCA with a pool, basketball courts, fitness facility and daycare. There's a Buca–branded restaurant and Bar Buca in the boutique lobby.

## In the neighbourhood

Located within the 100-acre SmartCentres Place, Transit City enjoys a prime location at the crux of Vaughan's new city centre that includes Vaughan Mills, Canada's largest shopping centre, Imax and AMC movie theatres, and the Kortright Centre for Conservation.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER/FOR METRO

## NEED TO KNOW

**What:** Transit City Condos
**Builder:** CentreCourt Developments
**Architect:** Diamond Schmitt Architects Inc.
**Interior:** Figure 3
**Location:** Vaughan Metropolitan Centre
**Building:** A 55-storey building with 551 units
**Models:** Ranging from one bedroom to three bedroom suites
**Sizes:** From 500 to 1,000 square feet
**Pricing:** From the mid $300,000's
**Status:** Pre-construction, pre-registration phase
**Sales centre:** Opens May 27 at 100 New Park Place, ground floor
**Hours:** Register for information
**Phone:** (416) 869-9268
**Email:** info@transitcity.com
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metro SPORTS

Outfielder Anthony Alford fractured his left wrist In the same game he recorded his first big-league hit — a 4-3 Toronto win on Tuesday night

# Blue Jays muscle up in Milwaukee

Kevin Pillar and Jose Bautista both hit solo home runs on Wednesday afternoon. MORRY GASH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

## Goins gets tough on Brew Crew with his first grand slam

Ryan Goins left a strong impression in what might be his last game as the Toronto Blue Jays' regular shortstop.

A grand slam could help Goins continue to get playing time once the injured Troy Tulowitzki returns to the lineup.

Goins' sixth-inning grand slam was one of four homers hit by the Blue Jays in an 8-4 win over the Milwaukee Brewers on Wednesday. The Blue Jays swept the two-game interleague series and wrapped up a seven-game road trip with three straight victories.

Tulowitzki and third baseman Josh Donaldson, who are both on the 10-day disabled list, could return from minor-league rehab assignments when the team opens a series this weekend against Texas.

Goins might be relegated back to a utility role just as he extended his modest hitting streak to three games, going 5-for-10 in that stretch.

"Yeah, I think I can play every day, so that's what I come to work for every day, playing or not and now it will be interesting to see," he said.

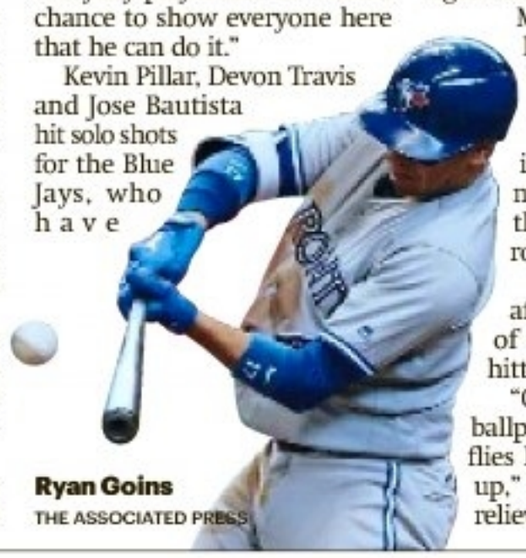
Goins is known especially for a good glove. But the left-handed hitter had been in a slump that forced his average to dip to .185 before his recent hot stretch.

"Tulowitzki isn't far off so his playing time is going to dwindle," manager John Gibbons said. "He's always believed he's an everyday player and he's had a chance to show everyone here that he can do it."

At Miller Park

| 8 | 4 |
|---|---|
| BLUE JAYS | BREWERS |

Kevin Pillar, Devon Travis and Jose Bautista hit solo shots for the Blue Jays, who have homered in four straight games. Bautista's towering shot caromed off the Miller Lite sign high above the centre-field wall 400 feet from the plate.



Ryan Goins THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Great job. This is a tough ballpark to pitch in. It really flies here. But they stepped up," Gibbons said about his relievers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marcus Stroman (5-2) allowed four hits and a season-high four walks but won his fourth straight game, pitching into the sixth before Domingo Santana's two-out, three-run homer cut Toronto's lead to four.

The bullpen ended the afternoon by retiring 10 of the Brewers' final 11 hitters.

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ARGOS

# Aging Ray excited by starting pivot role

He sports a large brace on his left knee and is five months shy of his 38th birthday. But the idea of eluding large men intent on causing him bodily harm still appeals to Ricky Ray.

Ray was one of six quarterbacks on the opening day of the Toronto Argonauts rookie camp Wednesday at York University. The 14-year CFL veteran was mostly a spectator as late-season starter Drew Willy, sophomore Cody Fajardo and newcomer Jeff Mathews drew the bulk of snaps ahead of rookies Dakota Prukop and McLeod Bethel-Thompson.

Ricky Ray
GETTY IMAGES

But Ray will lead Toronto's starting offence when training camp opens Sunday.

"I still love the game, I still feel like I can come out and compete," Ray said. "It's a great feeling to be on a team that's competitive. I know my time is coming to an end so I'll try to take advantage of it."

Ray's future in Toronto was uncertain after he lost the starter's job to newcomer Willy at last season's end. But moments after being introduced as the Argos head coach in March, Marc Trestman named Ray as his No. 1 quarterback, a bold declaration given Ray had just 11 starts the last two seasons due to an assortment of injuries.

"There's a lot of players who play the game at a high level at 37 years old and I think old is relative," Trestman said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**11**

**Number of games Argos quarterback Ricky Ray has started over the last two season due to injuries.**

# United Europa League champs

SOCCER

## Manchester's red side lifts cup on emotional night in Sweden

A guttural roar of "Manchester, Manchester" thundered around the Friends Arena at the full-time whistle.

Purely in soccer terms, Manchester United's 2-0 win over Ajax in the Europa League final on Wednesday was a triumph of huge significance for England's biggest club. On a wider level, it was also a moment to cheer for the team's home city, grieving 2,000 kilometres away.

Manchester was plunged into tragedy on Monday when 22 people were killed by a bomb attack at an Ariana Grande concert in the city centre. United's players were clearly moved by the events and flew to Sweden with heavy hearts, vowing to deliver a display in their biggest match of the season that would serve as a tribute to the victims and their families. That they succeeded in doing so was a testament to their strength of character. It made this victory, in a largely forgettable match, one to remember.

Members of Manchester United celebrate with the championship trophy in Solna, Sweden.
PAUL ELLIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

"Yesterday morning, we were devastated," said United midfielder Ander Herrera, dedicating the win to the victims. "But the manager told us the only thing we could do was to win this for them. That's what we've done.

"It's just a football game, just a trophy, but if we can support them with this just one per cent, it's enough for us."

Paul Pogba scored off a deflected shot in the 18th minute — the France midfielder pointed to the sky during his celebrations — and Henrikh Mkhitaryan added a second goal in the 48th by deftly hooking home a close-range effort from a corner.

WEDNESDAY In Sweden

| 2 | 0 |
|---|---|
| MAN UTD | AJAX |

In tough circumstances, United handled the occasion better than an Ajax side featuring six players aged 21 or under and playing in the famous Dutch club's first European final in 21 years.

"I haven't seen the Ajax that I am used to," Ajax coach Peter Bosz said. "They are not used to play a final. It was all new for them."

For United coach Jose Mourinho, it was obvious that the victory was a huge weight off his shoulders, because of both the emotions of the last few days and the importance of the match.

> **"It's just a football game, just a trophy, but if we can support them with this just one per cent, it's enough for us.**
> Ander Herrera dedicated the win to 22 people who died in the Manchester bomb attack

United's season was always going to be defined by this game. In Mourinho's first season at Old Trafford, he has guided the team to two trophies — the League Cup in February — and a place in next season's Champions League, the bonus prize for winning the Europa League.

"Obviously there's happiness from our achievement," Mourinho said. "But if we could, we'd change the peoples' lives for this cup. We wouldn't think twice. Does this cup make the city of Manchester a bit happier? Maybe." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TFC fans show their support for their team earlier this month.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MLS

# TFC joins Leafs, Raps with ticket sellout

Toronto FC has joined the Toronto Raptors and Maple Leafs in selling out its allotment of season tickets.

The Major League Soccer club said this week that its season tickets for the 2017 season were capped and sold out at 21,000. There is now a wait list for 2018.

It's the same story at the Leafs (16,000 season tickets this season) and Raptors (14,500), which are also owned by Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment.

TFC is able to sell more season tickets because BMO Field is bigger than the Air Canada Centre. The soccer team is averaging 26,604 at home this season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IN BRIEF

**Lakers sign trainer to stars**
A celebrity trainer known for getting the Kardashian clan into shape is going to work for the Los Angeles Lakers.

Gunnar Peterson is the Lakers' new director of strength and endurance training, the team announced Wednesday. Peterson runs a well-regarded gym in Beverly Hills. His client list includes Sylvester Stallone, Halle Berry, Ben Affleck, Jennifer Lopez and Pete Sampras.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Tiger on surgery: 'I haven't felt this good in years'**
Tiger Woods said he had fusion surgery on his back in April because he could no longer tolerate the pain, and that he wants to get back on the PGA Tour.

"I haven't felt this good in years," he said Wednesday in an update on his website. The surgery was his fourth on his back since the spring of 2014.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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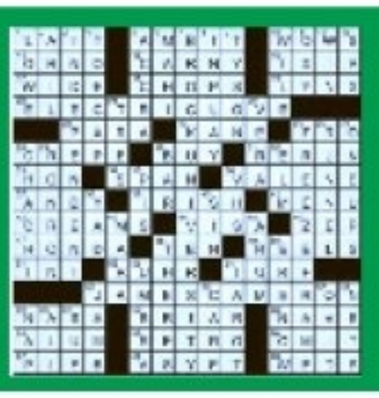

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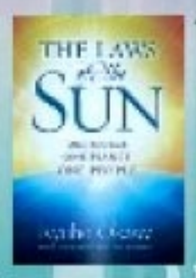

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

# *Fresh* Edamame Guacamole

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**
For Metro Canada

Yes, you read that correctly. Edamame in guacamole is a thing and it's a super delicious thing at that.

**Ready in 15 minutes**
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes

**Ingredients**
2 avocados, halved, seeded and peeled
1 lime, juiced
1 cup edamame, cooked and mashed with a potato masher
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 medium onion, diced
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tablespoon chopped cilantro

**Directions**

**1.** In a medium bowl, roughly mash your avocados with a fork. Mix in the lime juice, edamame and salt. Then stir in the onion, garlic and cilantro. Taste and add more salt or cilantro depending on personal preference. You can also add a hit of Tabasco sauce if you like your guac with a little heat.

**2.** Cover the bowl with plastic wrap, pressed down into the bowl against the guacamole (to prevent browning) and place it in the refrigerator. Chill for an hour and serve with your favourite chips or snack crackers.

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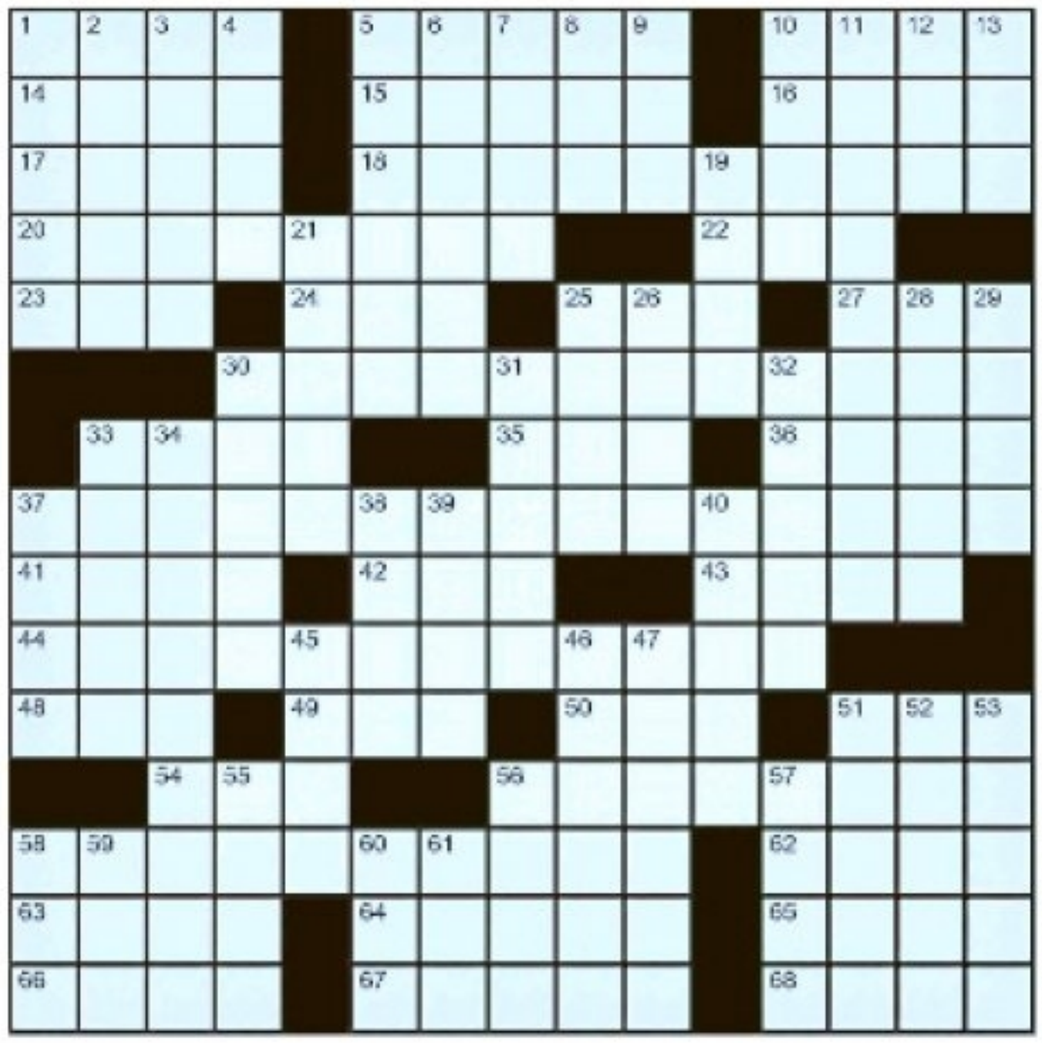
# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**
1. Talks
5. Soaked soil state
10. Isolated
14. Competent
15. Sleep _
16. Australian gem
17. Ms. Perlman
18. Competitors jump hurdles to get to them: 2 wds.
20. Tortilla chips brand
22. Have
23. Timecard abbrs.
24. "Give _ _ few days." (I'll get back to you)
25. CEO's degree
27. "Fee! _! Foe! Fum!"
30. Character in Peanuts, the comic brand which Halifax-based company DHX Media just purchased a majority stake in: 2 wds.
33. "_, _ is me!"
35. Baffin, e.g.
36. Port city of Algeria
37. The cute little yellow bird at #34-Down's perching spot: 2 wds.
41. "_, _ _" (That's fine then)
42. Ms. MacGraw
43. Ms. Stone
44. Cryptologists: 2 wds.
48. Ms. Tunstall, et al.
49. Ben-Hur author Mr. Wallace
50. Mr. Byrnes of "77 Sunset Strip"
51. Howe'er
54. Ms. Carrere
56. "That's the one to a T!" (Get that outfit!): 3 wds.
58. Crest or Colgate
62. Seasons for Mays, wee-ly
63. 701 in ancient Rome
64. Will, fancy-style
65. 'Luck' suffix (Most fortunate)
66. _ Fifth Avenue
67. Blackthorn fruits
68. Works with grass

**DOWN**
1. "Wayne's World" (1992) character
2. Really find repugnant
3. Sanctify
4. Musical chairs goal
5. "Goin' Gone" country singer Kathy
6. Tumult
7. Forensic IDs
8. Calendar ender [abbr.]
9. Wild ox
10. Marcus _ (MGM co-founder)
11. Free-for-all discussion: 2 wds.
12. Ms. Imbruglia, to pals
13. Chicago trains
19. Biblical land
21. "That's cool with me.", retro-style: 2 wds.
25. Fermented soybean paste
26. Brussels is its cap.
28. "_ _ _ Teenage Werewolf" (1957)
29. -ette cousin
30. "Twistin' the Night Away" by Sam _
31. PBS celebrity chef Ms. Bastianich
32. Hotel reservation-ees
33. How the washing machine is set maybe, temperature-wise: 2 wds.
34. Southwestern Ontario city; or, Peanuts character
37. Usual missing laundry item
38. Lively
39. Oodles
40. Works as a Collie
45. Ho-hum
46. Kitchen whistler
47. Henry Ford's son's cars
51. Blood type, e.g.: wd. + letter
52. _ _'oeuvre
53. Boots
55. Medical-style suffix
56. Golfer Mr. Aoki
57. 'Psych' suffix
58. QB's feats
59. Wood sorrel
60. Initials-sharers of Art Garfunkel's partner
61. Calder Cup org.

# ✷ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20
Examine your relationship with others today to see what needs to be changed. Relationships are never static and unchanging — it's quite the opposite.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21
Something going on behind the scenes concerns you today. You might have an urge to improve things, or at least stop something from getting worse.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21
You want to improve your relationships with a friend or a group today, but you might not be sure how to do this. Why not start by being friendly?

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23
You want improve the appearance of something that matters to you. This is why you want people to listen to your ideas.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
You want a change of scenery, and will move heaven and earth to make this happen, because you are so restless for a change. Even a short trip will please you.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Romantic relationships are passionate and intense today. Because the intensity is so strong, the relationships actually are quite fragile. Something might make your feelings snap. (They are not stable.)

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Tread carefully when dealing with partners and close friends today, because people are feeling intense. They might go off the deep end and do or say something they will later regret. This includes you as well.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You have strong ideas about how to make improvements where you work. You also have strong ideas about how to improve your health.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You're determined to have fun today, and you want everyone to join you. Lighten up so that things can develop naturally.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
A discussion with someone about how to improve your home will please you today. You have specific ideas you want to put into action, and you want to do that now.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Look around you and see what you can do to improve your daily environment. Any improvement is a step in the right direction.

**Pisces**
Feb. 20 - March 20
It's possible that you will think of new ways to earn money, or perhaps you'll get a better-paying job. You might even see ways to make money on the side. Yay!

**CONCEPTIS SUDOKU** by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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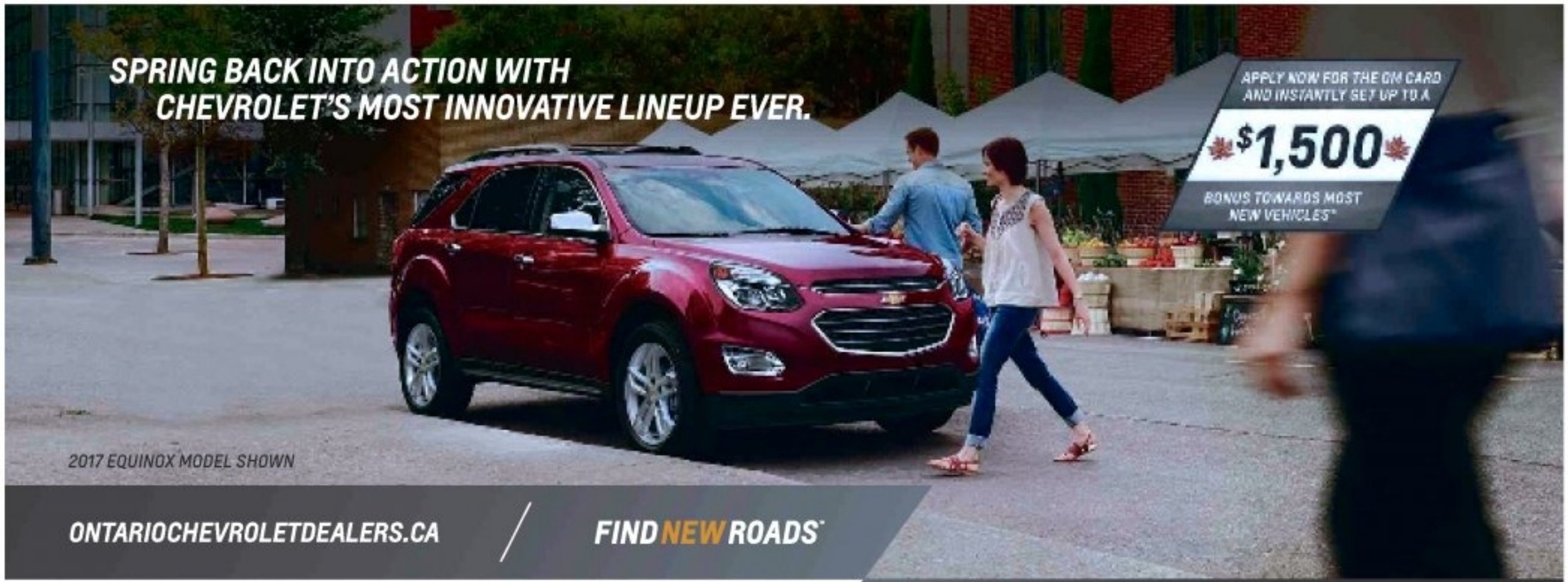
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